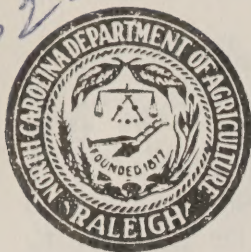


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NORTH CAROLINA



No. 228

RALEIGH, N. C.

MARCH 13, 1957

## N. C. PRICES RECEIVED UP 2 POINTS

The "All Farm Products" index of prices received by farmers at local markets increased 2 points during the month ended February 15, 1957. The February index of 279 compares with an index of 287 a year earlier and an index of 277 on January 15, 1957.

An advance of 2 points in the all crops index from 295 on January 15 to 297 in mid February was due mostly to higher prices received for grains, soybeans, cotton, sweetpotatoes and apples.

The livestock and livestock products

*(Continued on Page 2)*

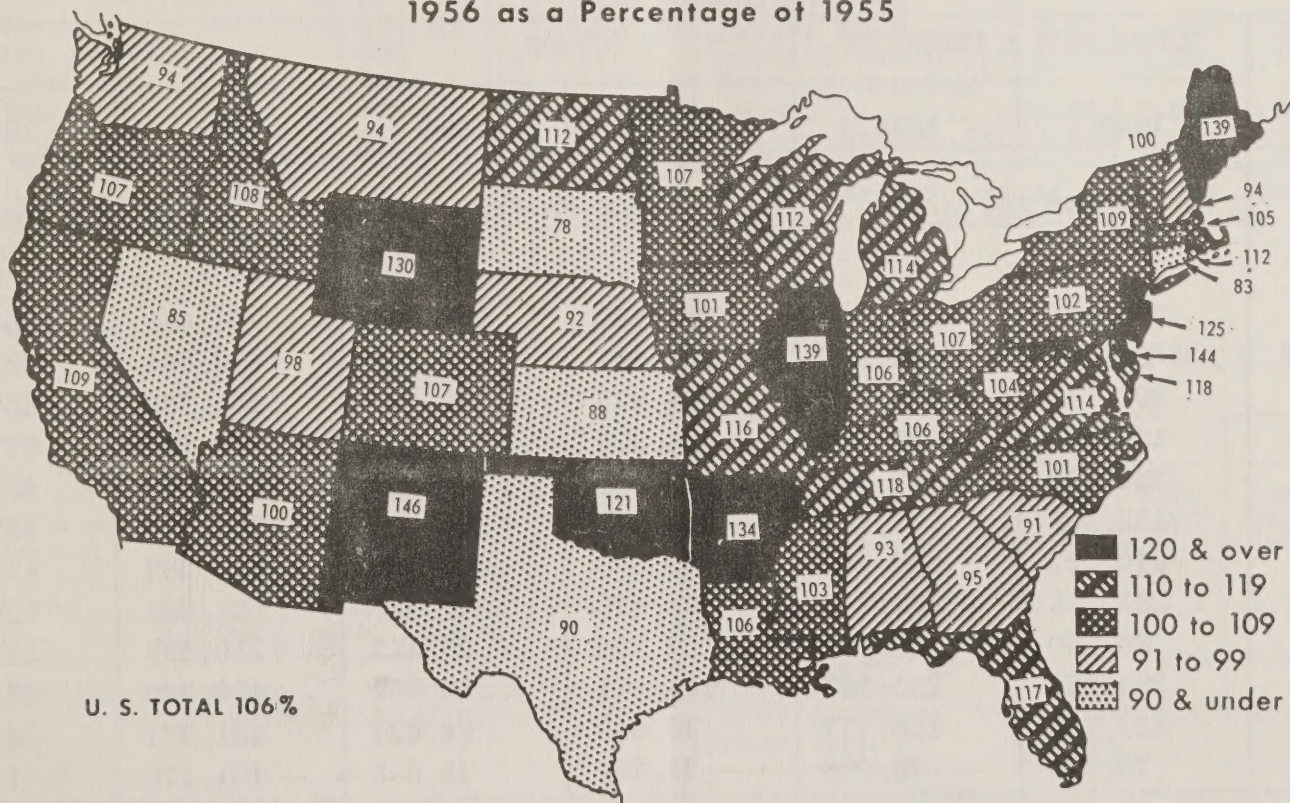
## U. S. PRICES RECEIVED DOWN 4 POINTS PRICES PAID UP 2 POINTS PARITY RATIO 80

The Index of Prices Received by Farmers declined 4 points (2 percent) during the month ended February 15. Declines were reported for most commodities, led by hogs, tomatoes, lettuce, milk, and potatoes. Higher prices for oranges, chickens, and some commercial vegetables were only partially offsetting. The February Index at 234 percent of its 1910-14 average compared with 238 in January and with 227 a year earlier.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## REALIZED NET INCOME PER FARM

1956 as a Percentage of 1955





N. C. PRICES (Continued)

index at 216 was 3 points above the mid January index. However, the advance was limited because of lower prices received for hogs, turkeys, eggs, and milk.

The ratio of North Carolina prices received to U. S. prices paid was unchanged from the previous month.

U. S. PRICES (Continued)

A general increase in prices of both living and production goods lifted the Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services, including Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates (the Parity Index) nearly 1 percent during the month. Prices of food, feeder livestock, and motor supplies contributed most to the increase. This advance established a new all-time high for the Parity Index. In mid-February it was 5 percent higher than a year earlier.

With farm product prices off nearly 2 percent this month, the Parity Ratio dropped back to 80, the post-World War II low point, first established in November 1955.

N. C. CASH FARM RECEIPTS  
HIGHEST IN SOUTHEAST

Cash receipts from farm marketings in North Carolina during the calendar year of 1956 amounted to \$950,293,000. At this level the receipts were well above those for any other state in the Southeast and ranked 11th among all states in the Union. This is the fourth consecutive year in which North Carolina cash farm receipts have increased. As compared with 1955, total Tar Heel receipts were up about one and a half percent. Receipts for crops were down slightly over six million dollars, but these were more than offset by receipts from livestock and livestock products which were up \$20,885,000 or a little over nine percent.

In the Southeast, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama registered decreases in total cash receipts from those of the previous year. Showing increases were Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi. Nationally, the receipts over the previous year were up two and one-half percent.

CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARM MARKETINGS CALENDAR YEARS 1955 AND 1956

STATE AND REGION	LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS		CROPS		TOTAL	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
N. C.	222,963	243,848	712,502	706,445	935,465	950,293
S. C.	82,840	85,635	263,821	246,432	346,661	332,067
Ga.	301,048	312,489	354,938	342,764	655,986	655,253
Fla.	139,842	151,906	486,329	525,669	626,171	677,575
Ala.	190,980	197,965	268,585	240,550	459,565	438,515
Miss.	152,105	161,462	402,014	396,326	554,119	557,788
Tenn.	210,582	219,288	220,505	252,160	431,087	471,448
Ky.	231,163	242,451	290,470	285,570	521,633	528,021
W. Va.	86,600	87,728	23,999	25,122	110,599	112,850
Va.	235,069	235,567	195,811	225,767	430,880	461,334
Md.	161,248	159,777	70,053	84,427	231,301	244,204
Del.	76,448	78,996	24,728	35,918	101,176	114,914
S. East	2,090,888	2,177,112	3,313,755	3,367,150	5,404,643	5,544,262
U. S.	15,836,496	16,206,655	13,427,403	13,791,902	29,263,899	29,998,557



PRICES PAID BY NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS FOR FEED

Average prices paid by North Carolina farmers for all poultry feeds and most of the mixed dairy feeds during the month ended February 15, 1957 were 5 cents per hundred above the previous month. The only feed to register a decline was soybean meal. The other high protein feeds were unchanged from a month earlier.

Prices paid for the grain by-product

feeds, with the exception of corn meal which advanced 5 cents per hundred, were the same as those being paid on January 15.

All the poultry feed price ratios except the broiler-feed ratio were less favorable during February.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	N. C.		U. S.
		JAN. 15	FEB. 15	FEB. 15
		1957	1957	1957
		<u>DOLLARS</u>		
CORN.....t.	BU.	1.26	1.31	1.19
WHEAT.....	BU.	2.06	2.10	2.07
OATS.....	BU.	.77	.79	.728
BARLEY.....	BU.	1.12	1.14	1.03
RYE.....	BU.	1.85	1.85	1.15
SORGHUM GRAINS.....	CWT.	2.00	2.00	2.09
SOYBEANS.....	BU.	2.02	2.13	2.25
PEANUTS.....	LB.	.119	.113	.111
COTTON.....	LB.	.278	.288	.302
COTTONSEED.....	TON	43.00	41.00	58.60
WOOL.....	LB.	.45	.45	.475
HOGS.....	CWT.	16.40	16.20	16.30
BEEF CATTLE.....	CWT.	11.50	12.40	14.90
VEAL CALVES.....	CWT.	19.30	21.90	17.30
SHEEP.....	CWT.	5.30	5.30	6.11
LAMBS.....	CWT.	18.10	18.10	18.40
MILK COWS.....	HD.	105.00	105.00	157.00
CHICKENS, ALL.....	LB.	.169	.183	.184
COM'L. BROILERS.....	LB.	.170	.185	.194
TURKEYS.....	LB.	.300	.270	.273
EGGS.....	DOZ.	.422	.393	.328
MILK, WHLSE. 1/.....	CWT.	5/ 5.70	2/ 5.65	2/ 4.34
RETAIL 3/.....	QT.	.208	.210	.212
BUTTERFAT.....	LB.	.49	.50	.59
POTATOES.....	CWT.	-	-	1.41
SWEETPOTATOES.....	CWT.	4.85	4.60	4.73
APPLES, COM'L.....	BU.	2.25	2.65	3.26
LESPEDeza SEED.....	CWT.	10.70	10.80	10.70
KOREAN.....	CWT.	9.40	10.00	-
KOBE.....	CWT.	11.30	11.20	-
COM. & TENN.....	CWT.	17.00	17.00	-
SERICEA.....	CWT.	14.70	14.70	-
HAY, ALL BALEd 4/..	TON	30.00	28.60	22.50
ALFALFA HAY.....	TON	38.60	36.60	23.30
LESPEDeza HAY.....	TON	32.10	31.60	25.00
SOYBEAN AND				
COWPEA HAY.....	TON	27.50	26.50	27.90
PEANUT VINE.....	TON	17.90	18.10	24.40
OTHER.....	TON	28.80	26.50	

- 1/ Estimated average prices for the month for all milk sold at wholesale to plants and dealers.
- 2/ Preliminary.
- 3/ Sold by farmers direct to consumers.
- 4/ The all hay prices is the weighted average of separate kinds including an allowance for minor kinds.
- 5/ Revised.

FEED PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	N. C.		U. S.	
	Jan. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1957	Jan. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1957
Mixed Dairy Feed				
Under 29% Protein				
All.....	3.90	3.95	3.86	3.88
16% Protein....	3.75	3.75	3.80	3.83
18% Protein....	3.80	3.90	3.79	3.83
20% Protein....	4.15	4.20	4.04	4.05
24% Protein....	4.10	4.15	4.13	4.14
29% & Over.....	4.60	4.65	4.37	4.42
High Protein Feeds				
Linseed Meal.....	-	-	4.09	4.07
Soybean Meal....	4.10	4.00	3.85	3.87
Cottonseed Meal...	3.45	3.45	3.86	3.87
Meat Scrap.....	4.60	4.60	4.63	4.69
Grain By-Products				
Bran.....	3.45	3.45	3.08	3.08
Middlings.....	3.60	3.60	3.14	3.13
Corn Meal.....	3.75	3.80	3.48	3.46
Corn Gluten.....	-	-	3.42	3.50
Poultry Feed				
Laying Mash.....	4.75	4.80	4.49	4.51
Scratch Grain....	4.15	4.20	4.13	4.11
Broiler Growing				
Mash.....	4.95	5.00	4.93	4.96
Poultry Ration 1/.	3.85	3.91	3.58	3.56

1/ Average of prices paid for commercial feeds and prices received for grain.

LOCAL MARKET FEED PRICE RATIOS

POULTRY FEED PRICE RATIO 1/	N. C.		U. S.	
	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1957	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1957
Egg-Feed (Poultry Ration)	11.0	10.1	9.3	9.2
Farm				
Chicken Feed 2/	4.3	4.2	3.9	4.0
Broiler-Feed (Broiler Mash)	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.9
Turkey Feed 2/	7.8	6.9	7.7	7.7

- 1/ Pounds of feed equal in value to one dozen eggs, one pound farm chickens, one pound broilers and one pound turkeys.
- 2/ Poultry ration.



## OVER HALF MILLION CWT. OF NORTH CAROLINA 1956 SWEET POTATO CROP IN STORAGE

A total of 507,000 cwt. of sweet potatoes are indicated as having been in storage in North Carolina on February 1, 1957. This is 17 percent less than the 612,000 cwt. indication for February 1, 1956, obtained from a similar survey conducted last year. Of the 507,000 cwt. stored in all positions, 261,000 cwt. were stored in commercial storage houses with the remaining 246,000 cwt. stored on farms. Indications are that growers are still in possession of 42,000 cwt. of the potatoes in commercial storage; thus, growers have a total of 288,000 cwt. available for sale.

Warehousemen expected losses of February 1 holdings through decay and shrinkage to average about 20 percent. Losses of farm storage may run high although no reliable estimates are available.

Survey results also indicate that 618,000 cwt. of sweet potatoes had been sold by growers prior to February 1. Last year only 513,000 cwt. were indicated as having been sold prior to February 1. Total sales up to February 1 represent 26.0 percent of the 2,376,000 cwt. estimated by the Crop Reporting Board last December to have been produced for use on farms and for sale. The quantity already

sold plus the quantity available for sale by growers amounts to 906,000 cwt. or 38.1 percent of total production. The remainder of the crop is indicated to have been used or to be saved for use as food, feed, and seed on farms where grown, or lost through shrinkage or decay. Total sales to February 1 represent 68.2 percent of all sweet potatoes expected to be sold by growers.

The Coastal Plains area accounts for the bulk of sweet potato production and storage. Of the 618,000 cwt. sold prior to February 1, 578,000 cwt. or 93.5 percent was produced in Coastal Plain counties. Quantities of grower owned stocks still available for sale in the Coastal Plains amounted to 251,000 cwt.

## N. C. COMMERCIAL HATCHERY REPORT FOR JANUARY

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 8,987,000 chicks during January 1957. This was 9.6 percent above the output in January 1956 and 74 percent above the 1951-55 average.

Broiler chick production in January was estimated at 8,394,000 and compares with an output of 7,342,000 during the same month a year earlier. Non-broiler output at 593,000 was 31 percent below the 858,000 hatched by commercial hatch-

*(Continued on Page 5)*

## N. C. AND U. S. INDEX NUMBERS

INDEX	Jan. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1956	Feb. 15 1955	Feb. 15 1954
<i>NORTH CAROLINA INDEX NUMBERS</i>					
All Farm Products.....	277	279	287	294	296
All Crops.....	295	297	306	313	306
Tobacco.....	378	378	386	382	376
Cotton.....	230	238	256	277	277
Oil Bearing.....	280	271	306	348	318
Grains.....	153	158	146	184	182
Commercial Vegetables.....	245	257	221	252	243
Fruits.....	282	302	372	298	312
Livestock and Livestock Products..	213	216	221	231	259
Meat Animals.....	239	244	200	248	319
Poultry.....	188	185	221	220	239
Dairy.....	227	237	240	233	237
Ratio of Prices Rec'd. to Paid*...	95	95	102	104	105
<i>UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS</i>					
Prices Received.....	238	234	227	244	258
Prices Paid, Int., Taxes & Wages Rates.....	292	294	280	283	282
Parity Ratio.....	82	80	81	86	91

\* Ratio of N. C. Prices received to U. S. Prices paid.



HATCHERY (Continued)

eries during January 1956.

UNITED STATES

Commercial hatcheries in the United States produced 157,243,000 chicks during January. This was 5 percent above the 149,886,000 produced in January a year ago and 32 percent above the 1951-55 average for the month.

The demand for broiler type chicks continues relatively strong while the demand for egg type chicks is relatively weak. The number of broiler type chicks produced in January totaled 124,960,000 compared with 109,154,000 in January last year--an increase of 14 percent. The number of broiler type eggs in incubators on February 1 was 13 percent more than on February 1 last year indicating a large hatch of broiler chicks during February.

The number of egg type chicks hatched during January totaled 32,283,000 compares with 40,732,000 in January last year--a decrease of 21 percent. The January hatch was about the same as the output of January 1955, when 32,892,000 egg type chicks were hatched. The number of eggs in incubators for flock replacement on February 1 was 30 percent less than on February 1 last year indicating a much smaller February hatch than a year ago. Both the January and February egg type chick hatches last year were relatively high.

RECORD EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production on North Carolina farms during 1956 amounted to 1,672 million eggs, a record high output and 14 percent above the 1955 previous record high of 1,469 million.

The average number of layers on farms in North Carolina during 1956 at 8,899,000 was 9 percent above the previous record high reached in 1954. The annual average rate of lay per 100 layers at 1,568 was also a new record high and compares with the previous record of 1,510 established in 1955.

UNITED STATES

Egg production in 1956 totaled 5,087 million dozen--3 percent more than the previous record 1955 output. Layers on hand during 1956 averaged 311 million, compared with 309 million in 1955. Egg production since 1950 has increased 4 percent. During this period layers decreased 8 percent and the rate of lay increased 13 percent.

The rate of egg production per layer during 1956 was 196 eggs, compared with 192 eggs in 1955. The rate was at record high levels in all months except March, April, May and June.

N. C. EGG PRODUCTION, RATE OF LAY AND NUMBER OF LAYERS

MONTH	AVERAGE NUMBER LAYERS		EGGS PER 100 LAYERS		EGGS PRODUCED	
	<u>000</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Millions</u>	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
January	8,846	9,099	1,314	1,429	116	130
February	8,591	9,099	1,366	1,508	117	137
March	8,338	8,967	1,767	1,792	147	161
April	7,999	8,835	1,800	1,776	144	157
May	7,831	8,636	1,820	1,814	143	157
June	7,496	8,370	1,686	1,638	126	137
July	7,244	8,302	1,556	1,569	113	130
August	7,414	8,501	1,407	1,491	104	127
September	7,838	8,966	1,362	1,401	107	126
October	8,343	9,296	1,383	1,457	115	135
November	8,762	9,294	1,296	1,422	114	132
December	9,014	9,428	1,364	1,513	123	143
Year	8,143	8,899	1,510	1,568	1,469	1,672



NORTH CAROLINA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER SECOND HIGHEST OF RECORD

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during January amounted to 27,422,000 pounds liveweight. This output was the second highest for any month on record being exceeded only by the 28,278,000 pounds recorded for October of 1956. The near record current slaughter for the month was 27 percent above the 21,573,000 pounds reported for December and 6.5 percent more than the slaughter for January of 1956. By species the January 1957 slaughter was made up of 10,630,000 pounds of cattle; 1,262,000 pounds of calves; 15,520,000 pounds of hogs; and 10,000 pounds of sheep and lambs. Increases were registered for all species as compared with both the previous month and with January a year earlier.

UNITED STATES

Red meat production in commercial slaughter plants during January totaled 2,436 million pounds. This was 10 percent above the December 1956 total of 2,209 million pounds but 2 percent below the output of 2,477 million pounds in January 1956. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in Federally inspected plants and other wholesale and retail plants but excludes farm slaughter.

January beef production totaled 1,324 million pounds, 16 percent more than December and 8 percent more than January 1956. The number of cattle slaughtered for the month totaled 2,473,300 head, 13 percent

greater than the 2,181,900 head slaughtered in December and 10 percent greater than the 2,255,600 head slaughtered the same month last year.

January veal production totaled 127 million pounds. This was 15 percent higher than the December output and 10 percent higher than the January output last year. Calf slaughter was placed at 1,067,500 head for the month of January. This compares with 956,700 head slaughtered in December and 968,000 head slaughtered during January 1956.

Hog slaughter during January totaled 6,879,800 head, 1 percent more than the December number of 6,841,600 head, but 15 percent less than the 8,060,200 head killed in January 1956. Pork output for January totaled 913 million pounds, 1 percent above the December output but 14 percent below January last year. The average live weight of hogs killed during January was 233 pounds--a pound lighter than a month ago and 2 pounds lighter than the average for January 1956. The number of hogs slaughtered in January of this year was less than a year earlier in all except 11 southern and western States.

Lamb and mutton production in January was 72 million pounds--29 percent above a month ago but unchanged from a year ago. The number of head of sheep and lambs slaughtered during the month was estimated at 1,489,200 head. This

(Continued on Page 7)

NORTH CAROLINA AND U. S. LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Species	NORTH CAROLINA				UNITED STATES			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Liveweight		Number Slaughtered		Total Liveweight	
	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1957
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Mil. Head</i>		<i>Mil. Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	13.0	13.0	10,279	10,630	2.3	2.5	2,220	2,411
Calves	4.4	6.2	824	1,262	1.0	1.0	209	229
Sheep & Lambs	.1	.1	8	10	1.5	1.5	149	149
Hogs	66.0	72.0	14,649	15,520	8.1	6.9	1,894	1,606
TOTAL	83.5	91.3	25,760	27,422	12.9	11.9	4,472	4,395



## SLAUGHTER (Continued)

was 24 percent above the December kill of 1,199,400 head but slightly less than the 1,492,100 head slaughtered in January 1956.

Poultry slaughter in January 1957 was 342 million pounds, ready-to-cook basis. Output was 25 percent less than December, but 17 percent larger than the same month last year and 84 percent above the 10-year average for the month.

## U. S. POULT PRODUCTION

Total heavy breed poult production during January was up 62 percent from January last year. The production of heavy white breed poult was up 14 percent. The production of other heavy breed poult was up 103 percent. The number of heavy white breed poult produced during January totaled 990,000, compared with 867,000 in January last year. The number of other heavy breed poult produced totaled 2,075,000, compared with 1,021,000 in January last year. A large February hatch of heavy breed poult is in prospect as the number of heavy breed eggs in incubators of February 1 totaled 9,120,000 eggs, compared with 7,218,000 a year earlier--an increase of 26 percent.

Light breed poult hatched during January totaled 1,012,000, compared with 886,000 in January last year--an increase of 14 percent. The number of light breed eggs in incubators on February 1 totaled 1,420,000 compared with 1,171,000 a year earlier--an increase of 21 percent.

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*Domestic consumption of cotton is expected to continue to lag behind 1955-56 during the remainder of the marketing season. On the other hand, exports from August 1956 to February 1, 1957 had been over three times last season's low rate.*

*Price supports and prices of dairy products to farmers in 1957 are likely to be about the same as in 1956. However, 1957 production is likely to be up slightly from 1956. Consumption per person in 1957 is expected to hold at about 1956 figures with total use up about as much as production because of the increase in population.*

## N. C. WOOL PRODUCTION

Wool production in the State during 1956 amounted to 273,000 pounds and compares with 270,000 pounds produced in 1955. The increased production was due to an increase in the number of sheep shorn. The 47,000 sheep shorn in 1956 compares with 45,000 a year earlier. Average weight per fleece of 5.8 pounds was slightly under the average of 6.0 pounds in 1955.

The estimated average price received for wool during the period April 1956 through January 1957 was 46 cents per pound. The average price received during the 1955 wool marketing year was 48 cents per pound.

## UNITED STATES

Wool production, shorn and pulled, in the United States in 1956 totaled 272 million pounds. This was 1 percent below the 1955 production. Of the total wool production in 1956, 232 million pounds were shorn wool and 40 million pounds pulled wool. In 1955, total production was 276 million pounds, of which 234 million pounds were shorn and 42 million pulled. The 1945-54 average production of all wool was 288 million pounds, of which 243 million pounds were shorn wool and 45 million pounds pulled wool.

The estimated price received by growers for shorn wool during the period April 1956 through January 1957 was 42.7 cents per pound. The average price received during the 1955 wool marketing year was 42.6 cents per pound and the 10-year average price was 54.6 cents. Value of sales for shorn wool produced in 1956 was estimated at 99.2 million dollars, less than 1 percent below the 99.8 million dollars received for the 1955 clip and 24 percent below the 10-year average.

The number of sheep and lambs shorn in 1956 totaled 27.2 million head, a decrease of 1 percent from the number shorn in 1955. This compares with the 10-year average of 29.7 million head shorn. The weight per fleece was 8.52 pounds, only slightly below the record high of 8.55 pounds in 1955.

Pulled wool production in 1956 is estimated at 40 million pounds, a decrease of 4 percent from 1955. Commercial slaughter of sheep and lambs during 1956 was 1 percent below 1955. The average weight of wool pulled per skin was 3.44 pounds compared with 3.53 in 1955.



# FARM REPORT

Compiled by authority of  
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Agricultural Marketing Service  
Agricultural Estimates Division  
*S. R. Newell, Director*

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## COMPARISON OF PRICES RECEIVED BY U. S. FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES 1/		AVERAGE PRICES AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	Jan. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1957	Jan. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1957	Jan. 15 1957	Feb. 15 1957
	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Cotton, Lb.....	.3021	.3016	.3656	.3681	83	82
Wheat, Bu.....	2.09	2.07	2.49	2.50	84	83
Corn, Bu.....	1.23	1.19	1.80	1.81	68	66
Oats, Bu.....	.752	.728	.864	.870	87	84
Barley, Bu.....	1.05	1.03	1.34	1.35	78	76
Rye, Bu.....	1.22	1.15	1.65	1.66	74	69
Beef Cattle, Cwt....	14.90	14.90	22.10	22.30	67	67
Hogs, Cwt.....	17.30	16.30	21.60	21.80	80	75
Lambs, Cwt.....	18.00	18.40	24.60	24.80	73	74
Chickens, All, Lb...	.171	.184	.282	.284	61	65
Eggs, Doz.....	.332	.328	.473	.476	5/ 75	5/ 78
Milk, Whlse. Cwt. 2/	3/ 4.44	4/ 4.34	4.76	4.79	5/ 88	5/ 88

- 1/ Effective parity prices as computed currently in months indicated using base period prices and indexes then in effect.  
2/ Estimated average price for the month for all milk sold at wholesale to plants and dealers.  
3/ Revised.  
4/ Preliminary.  
5/ Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.